

Message Text

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61

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01

/102 W

----- 102544

R 121520Z MAY 75

FM US MISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2838

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USEC BRUSSELS 4531

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

USOECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3437

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EEWT

SUBJECT: FINNISH "FREE TRADE AREA" ARRANGEMENTS WITH EASTERN
COUNTRIES

1. GATT SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL INFORMED US THEY HAVE BEEN
THINKING OF SCHEDULING FIRST MEETING OF WORKING PARTY ON
FINNISH/HUNGARIAN AGREEMENT JUNE OR JULY WITH INITIAL MEETING
OF WORKING PARTIES ON FINNISH/BULGARIAN AND FINNISH/CZECH
AGREEMENTS IN THE FALL. KAWAN OF EC COMMISSION SAYS THAT
COMMISSION POSITION IS THAT FINNISH/HUNGARIAN ARRANGEMENT
WOULD BE EASIEST FOR FINNS AND EES TO DEFEND IN VIEW OF
RECOGNIZED STATUS HUNGARIAN TARIFF IN GATT AND THAT
ACCORDINGLY IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE TO ACCEPT GATT
SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL MENTIONED ABOVE. COMMISSION WOULD
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LIKE GATT REVIEW TO START WITH BULGARIAN OR CZECH AGREEMENTS

AND WOULD WANT ALL THREE WORKING PARTIES TO MEET AT
APPROXIMATELY SAME TIME.

2. WE AGREE ENTIRELY WITH EC'S TACTICAL ASSESSMENT, AND
WILL TAKE SAME LINE IN DISCUSSING MATTER WITH GATT SECRETARIAT
UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE.

3. FINNS HAVE NOT YET NOTIFIED GATT OF RECENTLY CONCLUDED
"FTA" WITH GDR. DOES DEPARTMENT WISH US OR EMBASSY
HELSINKI TO GIVE FINNS A PUSH ON THIS.ABRAMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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05 JUL 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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